

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-10 AID-05 OMB-01 /091 W

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R 211135Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9756

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KABUL

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 3515

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, PK

SUBJ: VISIT TO PAKISTAN OF PRC VICE PREMIER LI

REF: ISLAMABAD 3307

1. PRC VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN WAS GIVEN A RED CARPET WELCOME AT ISLAMABAD AIRPORT APRIL 20 AS HE BEGAN A SCHEDULED SIX-DAY VISIT TO PAKISTAN. LI, WHO ARRIVED WITH A 16-MEMBER ENTOURAGE, WAS MET BY SENIOR PAK MINISTERS AND PARLIMENTARY LEADERS. ACCORDING TO PRESS, THOUSANDS CHEERED HIM ALONG THE ROUTE FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE STATE GUEST HOUSE IN RAWALPINDI.

2. PAKISTAN TIMES APRIL 21 REPORTS THAT LI WAS SCHEDULED TO HAVE TWO ROUNDS OF TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO. THE FIRST OF THESE, LASTING TWO AND ONE HALF HOURS ON THE 20TH, REPORTEDLY DEALT WITH A REVIEW OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA AND WITH PAK RELATIONS WITH THEIR NEIGHBORS. THE SECOND ROUND IS TO BE HELD APRIL 21. THE VICE PREMIER HAS ALSO PAID A COURTESY CALL ON PRESIDENT FAZAL ELAHI CHAUDHRY. HE WILL VISIT THE TAXILA HEAVY UNCLASSIFIED

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INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX ON THE 22ND, THEN TRAVEL TO LAHORE

AND KARACHI.

3. BOTH LI AND BHUTTO DELIVERED SPEECHES AT A BANQUET HOSTED BY THE LATTER IN RAWALPINDI. THE VICE PREMIER EMPHASIZED THE "DEEP AND TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP" BETWEEN CHINA AND PAKISTAN AND SAID THAT THE PRC HIGHLY VALUED AND APPRECIATED THE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE RENDERED BY PAKISTAN IN PAST YEARS. CHINA, HE ASSERTED, WOULD RENDER SUPPORT TO THE FOLLOWING: THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH ASIA AGAINST "HEGEMONISM AND EXPANSIONISM" THE PAK SANFZ PROPOSAL, KASHMIRI PEOPLE'S SELF-DETERMINATION, PEOPLE OF SIKKIM AGAINST "NAKED ANNEXATION", KING OF NEPAL'S DECLARATION OF NEPAL AS ZONE OF PEACE, AND SRI LANKA'S INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE PROPOSAL. LI ALSO PRAISED PM BHUTTO'S GOVERNMENT FOR "SAFEGUARDING STATE SOVERIEGNTY AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AGAINST FOREIGN INTERFERENCE, SABOTAGE AND SUBVERSIONS".

4. PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO IN RESPONSE SAID THAT THE STEADFAST SUPPORT RENDERED BY CHINA HAD HELPED TO NORMALIZE SITUATION IN SOUTH ASIA. HE TERMED PAKISTAN GRATIFIED AT VICTORY OF CAMBODIAN PEOPLE, AND HOPED "EARNESTLY" THAT PEOPLE OF VIET NAM WOULD BE ABLE TO SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS. ON SOUTH ASIA, HE MENTIONED SERIES OF DEVELOPMENTS IN PAK RELATIONS WITH INDIA AND BANGLADESH AND HE SAID HE HOPED TO MAKE FURTHER PROGRESS TOWARD NORMALIZATION BASED ON THE "SOVEREIGN EQUALITY OF STATES". REGRETTING THAT RELATIONS WITH AFGHANS HAD FAILED TO IMPROVE, BHUTTO REITERATED GOP CHARGES OF AFGHAN INTERFERENCE IN PAK INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

5. LI'S ENTOURAGE INCLUDES HIS WIFE, MADAME LIN CHIA-MEI, MFA VICE MINISTER HAN NIEN-LUNG, WHOM PRESS DESCRIBES AS RESPONSIBLE FOR SOUTH ASIA (AND WHO WAS FIRST PRC AMBASSADOR TO PAKISTAN), AND MADAME CHANG HAN-CHIH OF THE ASIAN DEPARTMENT, MFA, ACORDING TO PRESS, LI'S PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES ARE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND ASSISTING DEPUTY PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING WITH "WHOLE RANGE OF NATIONAL POLICIES."

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YM ALL MAJOR PRESS HAVE DEVOTED VERY HEAVY AND FAVORABLE COVERAGE TO THE VISIT.

7. WE WILL CONTINUE FOLLOWING VISIT, WILL REPORT ON SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS, AND INTEND TO DO A WRAP UP FOLLOWING LI'S DEPARTURE.
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